

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

UNCLAS MAPUTO 0318

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: MZ, RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MUGABE COMMENTS ON UNSC RESOLUTION

1. ZANU PRESIDENT ROBERT MUGABE RETURNED TO MAPUTO MARCH 16 DURING AN INTERVIEW WITH LOCAL JOURNALISTS (REPORTED IN NOTICIAS MARCH 17) MUGABE COMMENTED ON THE UNSC RESOLUTION HIS MEETING WITH SECRETARIES OWEN AND VANCE, AND THE NEED FOR THE RESUMPTION OF THE MALTA TALKS.

2. UNSC RESOLUTION: MUGABE SAID THE ABSTENTION OF THE FIVE WESTERN POWERS ON THE UNSC RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. DEMONSTRATED THE DUPLICITY OF THE WESTERN COUNTRIES IN REGARD TO THE RHODESIAN QUESTION AND UNDERLINED FACT THAT THE WESTERN POWERS HAVE NOT CLEARLY CONDEMNED THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT
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MUGABE ALSO CLAIMED THAT THE WESTERN ABSTENTIONS INDICATED A HIDDEN INTENTION BY WESTERN POWERS TO ACCEPT THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT OR AT LEAST PARTIALLY ACCEPT IT.

3. MUGABE'S MEETINGS WITH OWEN AND VANCE, MUGABE ACCUSED OWEN OF DEVIATING FROM THE ANGLO AMERICAN PROPOSALS AND OF MOVING IN THE DIRECTION OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. MUGABE SAID

OWEN ACCEPTS AS FACT THAT AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED IN SALISBURY AND THAT THIS AGREEMENT SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION OWEN NOW WANTS TO HOLD A CONFERENCE WHICH WILL INCLUDE ALL THE PARTICIPAANTS IN THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT, INCLUDING CHIEF CHIRAU. SECRETARY VANCE ACCETPS THIS. MUGABE SAID PF REJECTS THIS TYPE OF CONFERENCE. " WE MANINTAIN THAT THE AGREEMENT ESTABLISHED IN SALISBURY IS ILLEGAL, BECAUSE SMITH IS AN ILLEGAL PRIME MINISTER" OF ANN ILLEGAL REGIME. MUGABE ALSO RDJECTED THE NOTION OF MERGING THE ANGLO AMERICAN PLAN WITH THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT BY SAYING THAT ANY MARRIAGE OF THE TWO PLANS WOULD ALSO BE ILLEGAL. MUGABE THEN AFFIRMED THAT THE PF WOULD NOT PARTICIAPTE IN ANY TALKS WHICH INCLUDED THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT.

4. RESUSMPTION OF THE MALTA TALKS, MUGABE SAID THAT HE HAD INFORMED OWEN THAT THE MALTA TALSK BASED ON THEANGLO AMERICAN PLAN SHOULD BE RESUMED. HOWEVER, HE VOLUNTEERED THAT THERE WAS NOW AN IMPASSE BETWEEN THE PF AND THE UK. "THE UK DOES NOT WANT TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS BASED ON THE ANGLO AMERICAN PROPOSALS. THEY SHOULD NOT BLAME US FOR REFUSING TO TALK. WE ARE PREPARED TO TALK. THUS, WE LEAVE IT TO THE WORLD TO VERIFY CLEARLY THAT IT IS THE UK THAT IS RENEGING ON ITS OWN PROPRSALS." ASKED BY A SECOND REPORTER WETHER THE UK HAD CATEGORICALLY REJECTED A RESUMPTION OF TALKS ON THE ANGLO AMERICAN PROPOSALS, MUGABE SAID: "THEY HAVE NOT SAID THIS EXACTLY. HOWEVER, IN PRACTICE UNCLASSIFIED

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THEY ARE DOING IT." MUGABE NOTED THAT OWEN HAD SAID THAT ANY NEW DISCUSSIONS MUST TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE VIEWS OF SMITH, SITHOLE, MUZOREWA AND CHIRAU. DE PREE

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